

Highlights of the November 6, 2015 Meeting of Council



The November 6th Council Meeting was held at the SCoP office with a teleconference option also made available. All members of Council attended in person.

Registration Process

National Exam

- No update (no national exam sitting since last meeting).
- **COPR Exam Vendor RFP update**
 - COPR is in discussions with Yardstick regarding possible contract renewal.
 - Quality of the product is excellent, psychometric work is very well done; exam experience was good; but exam logistics that had issues. Yardstick introduced a new position (VP of Operations), who will manage the delivery of the exam and hopefully address logistical issues. COPR will not have to go through conversion if Yardstick is renewed.

EMR Exam

- Good pass rate. Small intake. Not as many rewrites as in the past.
- Fees for the exam: probably need to be reviewed and/or increased to reflect costs.

Criminal Record Report

- No update to report

Scope of Practice and Protocols

PCP Scope of Practice

- Some PCPs are volunteering as First Responders which is not permissible. If a member is licenced as a PCP, they can only volunteer as a PCP (treatment may be at the EMR or First Responder level).
 - If a paramedic is functioning as a First Responder, they are still a paramedic and practice investigations will be completed through the Professional Conduct Committee as they are practicing under their paramedic licences.
 - Paramedics can still administer treatment while off duty; First Responders must be dispatched by the health region.

SCoP Council and Committees

SCoP Strategic Plan Update

- The most recent draft of the strategic planning document was circulated to Council; changes to the Mission and Vision Statements were discussed.
 - **Final Version - Vision:** Collaboratively building a profession that is a continuously engaged partner and fully utilized in a patient-centered healthcare system.
 - **Final Version – Mission:** “To protect and serve the public interest through regulatory oversight of the Paramedic profession. “

Council/Executive Committee

- **General**
 - New public representative on Professional Conduct Committee. Ryan Smith, CPA/CMA.
 - Leg & Bylaws Committee Council Rep: Olumide Adetunji (Public Representative on Council) was appointed.
 - Still seeking a public rep for the Nominations Committee; it is not a requirement by statute so the committee can continue to operate in absence of this representative.
 - Looking for interest in attending a demonstration of the Provider Registry/ electronic health record pilot (SCoP and EHealth will eventually look at a province-wide implementation).
- **Other/New Business**
 - Renewal update
 - 414 members licenced. Slightly ahead of last year.
 - 53 more are incomplete. 166 are complete, but we are waiting for payment, mostly from employers.
 - Have mailed 348 licences to date.
 - Investment discussion
 - SCoP should consider investing some of the money in reserves in higher yielding areas. A draft investment policy was submitted to Council.
 - The working committee created an investment profile that considered legislation & bylaws as well as the risk threshold.
 - Surveys were conducted and information reviewed by the Audit Committee, who will return to Council with recommendations.

Education Committee

- No update to report

Audit Committee

- Minutes of the last meeting were circulated to Council.
- **Draft Budget Document** - Comments on budget:
 - Third year is always difficult to estimate. We are projecting 1900 members, to account for non-practicing, plus pro-rated members throughout the year. Do not include late fees in budget, because the goal is to reduce the amount paid.
 - One outstanding fine remains; SCoP will not follow up to obtain payment at this time because the case is under appeal.
 - Consulting fees are resources that are on contract with the College.
 - Medical Advisor: probably not required as SCoP will consult on clinical issues; additionally, protocol development is evidence-based. PESPC also includes physicians.
 - Net income is small, but the budget has plenty of room. Additionally, SCoP is a non-profit.
 - Reserve funds: there is an increase in the reserve fund for legal to cover potential costs associated with a Supreme Court hearing.

Professional Conduct Committee

- Unusually busy with 6 complaints.
- Investigations typically don't take longer than a few weeks. PCC then turns around their decision quickly.
- Consensual Complaint Resolution Agreements (CCRA) are put together by the PCC Committee.

Discipline Committee

- No update to report

Legislation and Bylaws Committee

- Meeting will be scheduled shortly.

Nominations Committee

- Packages were sent out yesterday; need 8 to 12 members-at-large on Committees, plus 1 person on Council (Vice President).

Stakeholder Meetings and Conferences

International Roundtable on Community Paramedics (IRCP)

Conference Update

- The SCoP Executive Director was invited to attend and present on the proposed electronic health record project. A decision was made to support attendance (costs for travel were funded by the ED).
- The conference was very well-attended and speakers were excellent.
 - Having a comprehensive health record is unique. Saskatchewan has it and is ahead of most jurisdictions. It's a big step that many countries have not reached.
 - The system has repositories of data including Lab results, x-rays, etc. We need to determine what information should/must be accessed (do they need access to everything?). Conducting a pilot will help.
 - The system is designed based on the premise that the professional being able to make a judgement call regarding what to view and what not to; either way, the individual must be able to demonstrate that there is a need to know. Auditing will be done to ensure appropriate access.
 - Even though paramedics are well-trained, the question that also needs to be answered is whether or not there is sufficient depth of knowledge to ensure accurate interpretation all of the information found in the EHR. The research attached to this initiative is so important. Access is a great idea, but what does that mean in terms of clinical practice?

SCoP Annual General Meeting 2016:

AGM 2016 Location and Date Update: May 2, 2016 at the Regina Travelodge and Conference Centre

Next Council Meeting: January 29, 2016

Motion to adjourn: Kael. Meeting adjourned 2:43 p.m.